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22852 7590 11/23/2007 FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER LLP 901 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20001-4413			EXAMINER RASHID, DAVID	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/524,430

Applicant(s)

PRYMUS ET AL.

Examiner

David P. Rashid

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 February 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 February 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/15/2005, 8/18/2006
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

All of the examiner's suggestions presented herein below have been assumed for examination purposes, unless otherwise noted.

Amendments

1. This office action is responsive to the preliminary claim amendment received on 2/15/2005.

Priority

2. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) (Application # 0202446-1, filed 2/15/2005), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Specification

3. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

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The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. **Claim 12**, line 3 recites the limitation "the presenting pattern". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

6. **Claim 30**, line 3 recites the limitation "the presenting interpretation". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

8. **Claims 1 – 8 and 11** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Comerford et al. (US 5,303,312 A).

Regarding **claim 1**, Comerford discloses a method for presenting a recognized handwritten symbol (symbols being characters of the English language “A”, “B”, and so forth), comprising the steps of:

detecting a handwritten pattern (FIG. 5, elements b, d) that is entered by a user;

recognizing the detected handwritten pattern (FIG. 5, elements c, e), wherein said step of recognizing comprises comparing the handwritten pattern to a plurality of templates (FIG. 5, elements 35, 36, 37 wherein the templates are each of the character “A”, “B”, etc recognized by a reference 37, not the “templates” as disclosed in Comerford), wherein each of the plurality of templates represents at least one of a plurality of writing symbol patterns (each character (template) is comprised of at least three writing symbol patterns (e.g. “A” in FIG. 4 has two capitalized writing symbol patterns and one lowercase writing symbol pattern, all three being the writing symbol patterns for template “A”)) of ways of writing symbols, and returning a best template selected from the plurality of templates that represents one of the plurality of writing symbol patterns as a best writing symbol pattern (from what the user wrote in FIG. 5, elements b, d – the best template was chosen in element e when snapped) which, according to a predefined rule (the rule of snapping), is most similar to the handwritten pattern (FIG. 5, elements b, d), wherein at least two of the plurality of templates comprise different ones of the plurality of writing symbol patterns which represent different ways of writing a single symbol (character “A” template has three writing symbol patterns, character “B” template also has three writing symbol pattern; and so forth as shown in FIG. 4); and

presenting the best writing symbol pattern of the best template on a screen (FIG. 5, element 38).

Regarding **claim 2**, Comerford discloses the method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one of the plurality of writing symbol patterns of each of the plurality of templates is represented by geometrical information (FIG. 5, element 36) relating to an appearance (the template to the left of element 35 in FIG. 5 wherein the geometric information “3, 9, 10, 11...” relates to the appearance of what was written that is recognized by reference 37) of said writing symbol pattern.

Regarding **claim 3**, Comerford discloses the method according to claim 2, wherein the geometrical information comprises information of positions of a number of dots (FIG. 5, element 36 wherein the encoded string of numbers representing the writing symbol pattern gives position of the number of dots (e.g. number “3” represents a line drawn between two known dots as shown in the template to the left of element 35 in FIG. 5)) representing the at least one of the plurality of writing symbol patterns, said at least one of the plurality of writing symbol patterns being presented by lines drawn between the dots.

Regarding **claim 4**, Comerford discloses the method according to claim 1, wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting the whole best writing symbol pattern of the best template at once (the snapping operation suggests that a user who completes a desired character that represents a writing symbol pattern will automatically snap to that writing symbol pattern, and thus would be the “whole best writing symbol pattern”).

Regarding **claim 5**, Comerford discloses the method according to claim 3, wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting lines one at a time (FIG. 5, element 36 gives encoded

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sequence, each number representing a line, and thus a string of numbers presenting lines “one at a time”).

Regarding **claim 6**, Comerford discloses the method according to claim 1, further comprising, before the step of presenting, manipulating the best writing symbol pattern of the best template according to characteristics of the handwritten pattern (FIG. 5 character “A” which was the “best writing symbol pattern” snapped to when written can be rewritten as that in the bottom of FIG. 6 to be the new “best writing symbol pattern” for character “A” when it is acknowledged as a “NEW ENTRY” for character “A”).

Regarding **claim 7**, Comerford discloses the method according to claim 6, wherein the step of manipulating is done in consideration of at least one characteristic in the group of translation, rotation, slant (slant occurs when constructing the new “best writing symbol pattern” as shown in FIG. 6) and scaling.

Regarding **claim 8**, Comerford discloses the method according to claim 1, wherein the handwritten pattern is entered (FIG. 5, elements b, d) on an input area on the screen (FIG. 1, element 12) and the best writing symbol pattern of the best template is presented in a presentation area (same spot) on the screen (FIG. 5, element 3 that finally snaps to the best writing symbol pattern (capital “A”) of the best template (character “A”), wherein said presentation area overlaps the input area (the input and presentation areas are the same area, thus overlapping).

Regarding **claim 11**, Comerford discloses the method according to claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of templates (FIG. 5, elements 35, 36, 37 wherein the templates are each of the character “A”, “B”, etc recognized by a reference 37, not the “templates” as disclosed in

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Comerford) is associated with a category (the category being the character (e.g. "A")) defining what kind of symbol is represented by each of the plurality templates.

9. **Claims 1 – 5, 8, and 33** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Beernink et al. (US 5,666,438 A).

Regarding **claim 1**, Beernink'438 discloses a method for presenting a recognized handwritten symbol (FIG. 6A), comprising the steps of:

detecting a handwritten pattern (the handwritten pattern entered by element 38 on tablet-screen 52 in FIG. 3) that is entered by a user;

recognizing the detected handwritten pattern, wherein said step of recognizing comprises comparing the handwritten pattern to a plurality of templates (each template being a character of the English alphabet), wherein each of the plurality of templates represents at least one of a plurality of writing symbol patterns of ways of writing symbols (each character of the English alphabet comprises different ways of writing each character (e.g. FIG. 6A, element 74 gives 4 different ways), each different way being a writing symbol pattern), and returning a best template selected from the plurality of templates that represents one of the plurality of writing symbol patterns as a best writing symbol pattern which, according to a predefined rule, is most similar to the handwritten pattern (once preferences are saved, Beernink'438 uses those preferences to recognize characters), wherein at least two of the plurality of templates comprise different ones of the plurality of writing symbol patterns which represent different ways of writing a single symbol (character "A" template has four writing symbol patterns, character "F" template also has four writing symbol pattern; and so forth as shown in FIG. 6A, FIG. 8); and

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presenting the best writing symbol pattern of the best template on a screen (FIG. 3, element 52).

Regarding **claim 2**, claim 20 recites identical features as in claim 2. Thus, references/arguments equivalent to those presented below for claim 20 are equally applicable to claim 2.

Regarding **claim 3**, claim 21 recites identical features as in claim 3. Thus, references/arguments equivalent to those presented below for claim 21 are equally applicable to claim 3.

Regarding **claim 4**, claim 22 recites identical features as in claim 4. Thus, references/arguments equivalent to those presented below for claim 22 are equally applicable to claim 4.

Regarding **claim 5**, claim 23 recites identical features as in claim 5. Thus, references/arguments equivalent to those presented below for claim 23 are equally applicable to claim 5.

Regarding **claim 8**, claim 26 recites identical features as in claim 8. Thus, references/arguments equivalent to those presented below for claim 26 are equally applicable to claim 8.

Regarding **claim 33**, claim 1 recites identical features as in claim 33. Thus, references/arguments equivalent to those presented above for claim 1 are equally applicable to claim 33.

The means-plus-function language is anticipated by the computer of Beernink'438 (FIG. 1, element 12; FIG. 1).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. **Claims 6 – 7, 9 – 16, 18 – 32, and 34** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beernink et al. (US 5,666,438 A) in view of Beernink et al. (US 5,682,439 A).

Regarding **claim 6**, claim 24 recites identical features as in claim 6. Thus, references/arguments equivalent to those presented below for claim 24 are equally applicable to claim 6.

Regarding **claim 7**, claim 25 recites identical features as in claim 7. Thus, references/arguments equivalent to those presented below for claim 25 are equally applicable to claim 7.

Regarding **claim 9**, while Beernink'438 discloses the method according to claim 1, Beernink'438 does not disclose wherein the step of recognizing comprises returning at least one alternative template selected from the plurality of templates.

Beernink'439 discloses a boxed input correction system and method for pen based computer systems (FIG. 1) that teaches wherein the step of recognizing comprises returning at least one alternative template (those templates listed in FIG. 5, element 170 of the character "C", some being "C" and "c") selected from the plurality of templates.

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the method of Beernink'438 to include wherein the step of recognizing comprises returning at least one alternative template selected from the plurality of templates as taught by Beernink'439 to provide "a correction method for when the selected word is the string of one or more well defined characters and the correction input is a character editing input overwriting a given box.", Beernink'439, Col. 2, lines 51 – 54.

Regarding **claim 10**, claim 28 recites identical features as in claim 10. Thus, references/arguments equivalent to those presented below for claim 28 are equally applicable to claim 10.

Regarding **claim 11**, while Beernink'438 discloses the method according to claim 1, Beernink'438 does not disclose wherein each of the plurality of templates is associated with a category defining what kind of symbol is represented by each of the plurality templates.

Beernink'439 discloses a boxed input correction system and method for pen based computer systems (FIG. 1) that teaches wherein each of a plurality of templates (the plurality of templates given in FIG. 5, element 170 wherein the template in question is character "C") is associated with a category ("C" is "associated" with the capitalized letter category) defining what kind of symbol (the symbol would then be a capitalized character "C", which is "C") is represented by each of the plurality templates.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the method of Beernink'438 to include wherein each of the plurality of templates is associated with a category defining what kind of symbol is represented by each of the plurality templates as taught by Beernink'439 to provide "a correction method for when the selected word

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is the string of one or more well defined characters and the correction input is a character editing input overwriting a given box.”, Beernink’439, Col. 2, lines 51 – 54.

Regarding **claim 12**, claim 30 recites identical features as in claim 12. Thus, references/arguments equivalent to those presented below for claim 30 are equally applicable to claim 12.

Regarding **claim 13**, claim 31 recites identical features as in claim 13. Thus, references/arguments equivalent to those presented below for claim 31 are equally applicable to claim 13.

Regarding **claim 14**, claim 32 recites identical features as in claim 14. Thus, references/arguments equivalent to those presented below for claim 32 are equally applicable to claim 14.

Regarding **claim 15**, while Beernink’438 discloses the method for sequentially presenting a plurality of recognized handwritten symbols (FIG. 6A), comprising for each handwritten pattern the steps of:

detecting the handwritten pattern (the handwritten pattern entered by element 38 on tablet-screen 52 in FIG. 3) that is entered by a user;

recognizing the detected handwritten pattern, wherein said step of recognizing comprises comparing the handwritten pattern to a plurality of templates (each template being a character of the English alphabet), wherein each of the plurality of templates represents at least one of a plurality of writing symbol patterns of ways of writing symbols (each character of the English alphabet comprises different ways of writing each character (e.g. FIG. 6A, element 74 gives 4 different ways), each different way being a writing symbol pattern) and returning a best

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interpretation of the handwritten pattern (once preferences are saved, Beernink'438 uses those preferences to recognize characters), said best interpretation being based on one of the plurality of writing symbol patterns as a best writing symbol pattern of a best template selected from the plurality of templates that, according to a predefined rule, is most similar to the handwritten pattern, wherein at least two of the plurality of templates comprise different one of the plurality of writing symbol patterns which represent different ways of writing a single symbol (character "A" template has four writing symbol patterns, character "F" template also has four writing symbol pattern; and so forth as shown in FIG. 6A, FIG. 8), and

presenting the best interpretation on a screen (FIG. 3, element 52), Beernink'438 does not directly teach wherein the different ones of the plurality of writing symbol patterns of said at least two of the plurality of templates return different best interpretations when being most similar to the handwritten pattern.

Beernink'439 discloses a boxed input correction system and method for pen based computer systems (FIG. 1) that teaches wherein the different ones of the plurality of writing symbol patterns (each character of the English alphabet comprises different ways of writing each character (e.g. FIG. 5, element 74 gives 2 different ways – capitol and lowercase) each different way being a writing symbol pattern) of said at least two of the plurality of templates (each template being a character of the English alphabet) return different best interpretations (FIG. 5, element 168 is a window displayed that allows user to pick the best character (e.g. character "C" can be either "C" or "c")) when being most similar to the handwritten pattern.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the method of Beernink'438 to include wherein the different ones of the plurality

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of writing symbol patterns of said at least two of the plurality of templates return different best interpretations when being most similar to the handwritten pattern as taught by Beernink'439 to provide "a correction method for when the selected word is the string of one or more well defined characters and the correction input is a character editing input overwriting a given box.", Beernink'439, Col. 2, lines 51 – 54.

Regarding **claim 16**, while Beernink'438 in view of Beernink'439 disclose the method of claim 15, Beernink'438 discloses further comprising, before the step of presenting, retrieving as the best interpretation, from a database (FIG. 10) comprising allographs (the allographs in FIG. 6A, element 76), a best allograph that is associated with the best writing symbol pattern of the best template (refer to claim 15 for references/arguments cited).

Regarding **claim 18**, while Beernink'438 in view of Beernink'439 disclose the method of claim 16, Beernink'438 discloses wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting the best allograph (the allographs in FIG. 6A, element 76) represented by a number of arcs (it is inherent that each allograph is "represented by a number of arcs" as each allograph consists of a series of arcs) depicting the way of writing symbols of the best template.

Regarding **claim 19**, while Beernink'438 in view of Beernink'439 disclose the method of claim 15, Beernink'438 discloses wherein the best interpretation is the writing symbol pattern of the best template (FIG. 13, element 154), and wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting the best writing symbol pattern of the best template on the screen (Beernink'438 discloses picking the best writing symbol pattern of the best template on the screen 52 (e.g. user writes "a", the algorithm will find the best "a" writing symbol pattern based on the particular handwriting style, "a" already being of template character "A").

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Regarding **claim 20**, while Beernink'438 in view of Beernink'439 disclose the method of claim 19, Beernink'438 discloses wherein each of the plurality of writing symbol patterns of a template is represented by geometrical information (it is inherent that each of the plurality of writing symbol patterns of a template is "represented by geometrical information" as each of the plurality of writing symbol patterns of a template consists of geometrical information such as height, width, etc) relating to an appearance of each of said plurality of writing symbol patterns.

Regarding **claim 21**, while Beernink'438 in view of Beernink'439 disclose the method of claim 20, Beernink'438 discloses wherein the geometrical information (it is inherent that each of the plurality of writing symbol patterns of a template is "represented by geometrical information" as each of the plurality of writing symbol patterns of a template consists of geometrical information such as height, width, etc) comprises information of positions of a number of dots (it is again inherent that the tablet-screen 52 of FIG. 3 will pick up individual pixels from which the user writes, each pixel being a dot that represents additional positional information on the tablet-screen) representing each of the plurality writing symbol patterns (each character of the English alphabet comprises different ways of writing each character (e.g. FIG. 6A, element 74 gives 4 different ways), each different way being a writing symbol pattern), said each of the plurality of writing symbol patterns being presented by lines (a stroke of a character written on tablet-screen 52 of FIG. 3 will contain a string of pixels (dots) that are presented by lines drawn between the pixels, take the "Letter Styles" in FIG. 6A for instance) drawn between the dots.

Regarding **claim 22**, while Beernink'438 in view of Beernink'439 disclose the method of claim 15, Beernink'438 discloses wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting the whole

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best writing symbol pattern (Beernink'438 discloses only one interpretation thus being the "best interpretation" of the writing symbol pattern, this occurs "at once" when element 85b on element 81 is turned up to "fast, less accurately" in FIG. 6A) represented by the best interpretation at once.

Regarding **claim 23**, while Beernink'438 in view of Beernink'439 disclose the method of claim 21, Beernink'438 discloses wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting the lines one at a time (each time the user writes a stroke to be recognized, that stroke consists of pixels (dots) and lines between the pixels, and each time the user writes a new stroke another line is constructed and thus lines are being presented one at a time).

Regarding **claim 24**, while Beernink'438 in view of Beernink'439 disclose the method of claim 15, Beernink'438 does not disclose further comprising, before the step of presenting, manipulating the best writing symbol pattern represented by the best interpretation according to characteristics of the handwritten pattern.

Beernink'439 discloses a boxed input correction system and method for pen based computer systems (FIG. 1) that teaches comprising, before the step of presenting, manipulating (manipulation by the ability to change the best writing symbol pattern in element 170, FIG. 5) the best writing symbol pattern (the best writing pattern being the top of the list in element 170 of FIG. 5) represented by the best interpretation according to characteristics of the handwritten pattern (refer to references/arguments cited in claim 15).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the method of Beernink'438 to include comprising, before the step of presenting, manipulating the best writing symbol pattern represented by the best interpretation according to

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characteristics of the handwritten pattern as taught by Beernink'439 to provide "a correction method for when the selected word is the string of one or more well defined characters and the correction input is a character editing input overwriting a given box.", Beernink'439, Col. 2, lines 51 – 54.

Regarding **claim 25**, while Beernink'438 in view of Beernink'439 disclose the method of claim 24, Beernink'438 does not disclose wherein the step of manipulating is done in consideration of at least one characteristic in the group of translation, rotation, slant and scaling.

Beernink'439 discloses a boxed input correction system and method for pen based computer systems (FIG. 1) that teaches wherein the step of manipulating (manipulation by the ability to change the best writing symbol pattern in element 170, FIG. 5) is done in consideration of at least one characteristic in the group of translation (it is possible for the user to select the best writing symbol pattern "C" to be "c" from the first to second on the list in element 170, thus a translation from "C" to "c"), rotation, slant and scaling.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the method of Beernink'438 to include wherein the step of manipulating is done in consideration of at least one characteristic in the group of translation, rotation, slant and scaling as taught by Beernink'439 to provide "a correction method for when the selected word is the string of one or more well defined characters and the correction input is a character editing input overwriting a given box.", Beernink'439, Col. 2, lines 51 – 54.

Regarding **claim 26**, while Beernink'438 in view of Beernink'439 disclose the method of claim 24, Beernink'438 discloses wherein the handwritten pattern is entered on an input area (the area wherever the user writes on) on the screen (FIG. 3, element 53) and the best interpretation

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(Beernink'438 discloses only one interpretation thus being the "best interpretation" of the writing symbol pattern) is presented in a presentation area (the area wherever the user writes on) on the screen (FIG. 3, element 53), whereby said presentation area overlaps the input area (when the recognition of the handwriting updates, it is performed right over the same spot, thus overlapping).

Regarding **claim 27**, while Beernink'438 in view of Beernink'439 disclose the method of claim 24, Beernink'438 does not disclose wherein the step of recognizing comprises returning at least one alternative interpretation.

Beernink'439 discloses a boxed input correction system and method for pen based computer systems (FIG. 1) that teaches wherein the step of recognizing comprises returning at least one alternative interpretation (the alternative interpretations are given in element 170 of FIG. 5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the method of Beernink'438 to include wherein the step of recognizing comprises returning at least one alternative interpretation as taught by Beernink'439 to provide "a correction method for when the selected word is the string of one or more well defined characters and the correction input is a character editing input overwriting a given box.", Beernink'439, Col. 2, lines 51 – 54.

Regarding **claim 28**, while Beernink'438 in view of Beernink'439 disclose the method of claim 27, Beernink'438 does not disclose wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting the at least one alternative interpretation at the request of a user.

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Beernink'439 discloses a boxed input correction system and method for pen based computer systems (FIG. 1) that teaches wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting the at least one alternative interpretation at the request of a user ("FIG. 5 illustrates a response of the boxed input correction system to the selected word 164 being selected to invoke a pop-up corrector 168", Beernink'439, Col. 10, lines 17 - 19).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the method of Beernink'438 to include wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting the at least one alternative interpretation at the request of a user as taught by Beernink'439 to provide "a correction method for when the selected word is the string of one or more well defined characters and the correction input is a character editing input overwriting a given box.", Beernink'439, Col. 2, lines 51 - 54.

Regarding **claim 29**, while Beernink'438 in view of Beernink'439 disclose the method of claim 15, Beernink'438 does not disclose wherein the best interpretation is associated with a category defining what kind of symbol is represented by the best interpretation.

Beernink'439 discloses a boxed input correction system and method for pen based computer systems (FIG. 1) that teaches wherein the best interpretation (the top of the list in FIG. 5, element 170, character (best template and best writing symbol "C") is associated with a category ("C" is "associated" with the capitalized letter category) defining what kind of symbol (the symbol would then be a capitalized character "C", which is "C") is represented by the best interpretation.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the method of Beernink'438 to include wherein the best interpretation is associated

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with a category defining what kind of symbol is represented by the best interpretation as taught by Beernink'439 to provide "a correction method for when the selected word is the string of one or more well defined characters and the correction input is a character editing input overwriting a given box.", Beernink'439, Col. 2, lines 51 – 54.

Regarding **claim 30**, while Beernink'438 in view of Beernink'439 disclose the method of claim 29, Beernink'438 does not disclose wherein the step of presenting comprises masking the presentation of the presented interpretation according to which category the best interpretation is associated with.

Beernink'439 discloses a boxed input correction system and method for pen based computer systems (FIG. 1) that teaches wherein the step of presenting comprises masking the presentation of the presented interpretation according to which category the best interpretation is associated with (the masking is performed in step 170 of FIG. 5 of the best interpretation being presented being the top of the list, among other possibilities of which include "C" and "c" for the character "C").

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the method of Beernink'438 to include wherein the step of presenting comprises masking the presentation of the presented interpretation according to which category the best interpretation is associated with as taught by Beernink'439 to provide "a correction method for when the selected word is the string of one or more well defined characters and the correction input is a character editing input overwriting a given box.", Beernink'439, Col. 2, lines 51 – 54.

Regarding **claim 31**, while Beernink'438 in view of Beernink'439 disclose the method of claim 30, Beernink'438 does not disclose wherein the category is indicated by a certain color of

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a background to the at least one of the plurality of writing symbol patterns represented by the presented interpretation.

Beernink'439 discloses a boxed input correction system and method for pen based computer systems (FIG. 1) that teaches wherein the category ("C" is "associated" with the capitalized letter category in FIG. 5, element 170) is indicated by a certain color of a background (the background color is white that indicates "C" is capitalized) to the at least one of the plurality of writing symbol patterns represented by the presented interpretation (presented interpretations being those listed in element 170, FIG. 5 with the top on the list being the best interpretation).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the method of Beernink'438 to include wherein the category is indicated by a certain color of a background to the at least one of the plurality of writing symbol patterns represented by the presented interpretation as taught by Beernink'439 to provide "a correction method for when the selected word is the string of one or more well defined characters and the correction input is a character editing input overwriting a given box.", Beernink'439, Col. 2, lines 51 – 54.

Regarding **claim 32**, while Beernink'438 in view of Beernink'439 disclose the method of claim 30, Beernink'438 does not disclose wherein the category is indicated by a certain color of the at least one of the plurality of writing symbol patterns (represented by the presented interpretation).

Beernink'439 discloses a boxed input correction system and method for pen based computer systems (FIG. 1) that teaches wherein the category ("C" is "associated" with the capitalized letter category in FIG. 5, element 170) is indicated by a certain color of the at least

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one of the plurality of writing symbol patterns (the color is black that indicates “C” is capitalized) represented by the presented interpretation (presented interpretations being those listed in element 170, FIG. 5 with the top on the list being the best interpretation).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the method of Beernink’438 to include wherein the category is indicated by a certain color of the at least one of the plurality of writing symbol patterns represented by the presented interpretation as taught by Beernink’439 to provide “a correction method for when the selected word is the string of one or more well defined characters and the correction input is a character editing input overwriting a given box.”, Beernink’439, Col. 2, lines 51 – 54.

Regarding **claim 34**, claim 15 recites identical features as in claim 34. Thus, references/arguments equivalent to those presented above for claim 15 are equally applicable to claim 34.

The means-plus-function language is anticipated by the computer of Beernink’438 (FIG. 1, element 12; FIG. 1).

12. **Claim 17** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beernink et al. (US 5,666,438 A) in view of Beernink et al. (US 5,682,439 A) and Kadashevich et al. (US 5,970,170 A).

Regarding **claim 17**, while Beernink’438 in view of Beernink’439 disclose the method according to claim 16, wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting the best allograph represented by an image (FIG. 7, element 76 of Beernink’438 are images; FIG. 5, element 170 of

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Beernink'439 are images) depicting the way of writing symbols of the best template,

Beernink'438 in view of Beernink'439 do not disclose wherein the image is a bitmap image.

Kadashevich discloses a character recognition system identification of scanned and real time handwritten characters that includes teaching a bitmap image (Col. 8, lines 60 – 67; Col. 9, lines 17 – 22; Col. 13, lines 16 – 20).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the image of Beernink'438 in view of Beernink'439 to be a bitmap image as taught by Kadashevich to provide an "array wherein each bit in the array represents a pixel of the...image, with the state of bit (0 or 1) representing whether the corresponding pixel is a background or foreground pixel and the location of the bit in the array representing the coordinates of the corresponding pixel in the image.", Kadashevich, Col. 8, lines 60 – 67.

Conclusion

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David P. Rashid whose telephone number is (571) 270-1578. The examiner can normally be reached Monday - Friday 8:30 - 17:00 ET.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vikram Bali can be reached on (571) 272-7415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

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applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

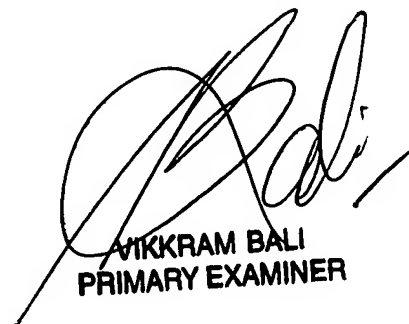
/David P. Rashid/

Examiner, Art Unit 2624

David P Rashid

Examiner

Art Unit 2624



VIKKRAM BALI
PRIMARY EXAMINER